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Image # 1754



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

KOIKE et al

Atty. Ref.: 461-62

Serial No. 09/546,227

Group: 1754

Filed: April 10, 2000

Examiner: E. Johnson

For: A CERAMIC SUPPORT CAPABLE OF
SUPPORTING A CATALYST...

* * * * *

April 5, 2004

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

REQUEST FOR WITHDRAWAL OF ERRONEOUS ABANDONMENT NOTICE

An Abandonment Notice was improperly issued in regard to the above-identified application alleging that Applicants failed to timely file a reply to the Office Letter mailed August 20, 2003. The Notice of Abandonment was issued in error, however, since a Notice of Appeal and Appeal Brief were timely filed. Accordingly, withdrawal of the Abandonment Notice is respectfully requested.

On August 20, 2003 an Official Action was issued in respect to the above-identified application. On January 16, 2004, the undersigned filed a Notice of Appeal together with a petition to extend the time to reply and the requisite two month extension of time fee in response to that Official Action, a copy of which is attached hereto together with a copy of the date-stamped PTO receipt card showing that the original response was received by the U.S. Patent Office on January 16, 2004, well in advance of the period for response deadline of February 20, 2004. Further to the filing of a Notice of Appeal, Applicants also filed an Appeal Brief with the USPTO on March 16,

2004. A copy of the Appeal Brief together with a copy of the date-stamped PTO receipt card showing receipt of the Appeal Brief on March 16, 2004 is also enclosed.

Because a response was timely filed and received by the U.S. Patent Office, this application should not have been abandoned. Accordingly, prompt withdrawal of the Notice of Abandonment is in order.

While Applicants do not believe a fee is due in connection with this Request, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Account No. 14-1140. A duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.

Respectfully Submitted

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